

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-07 ADP-00 EUR-03 /014 R

66664

DRAFTED BY: PM/ ISO: DDONCHI

APPROVED BY: PM/ ISO: JSTODDART

EUR/ RPM: WROMINE(INFO)

----- 058250

R 150612 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCEUR FOR POLAD

S E C R E T STATE 045506

LIMDIS

FOLL SENT ACTION NATO VIENNA NATO FROM SECSTATE 12 MAR 73
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 045506

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: P/ M, NATO, MCAP

SUBJECT: PROJECT FENDER

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

REF: (A) VIENNA 1859; (B) USNATO 1187; (C) STATE 36718;
(D) ROME 1841

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE POINTS MADE IN REFS
(A) AND (D) REGARDING PROJECT FENDER AND HAVE DECIDED TO
GO AHEAD WITH PROJECT AS DESCRIBED IN REF (C). THE US
RESPONSE TO DPQ-72 PLEDGES, INTER ALIA, AN AIRBORNE
BATTALION COMBAT TEAM WILL BE ADDED TO US ARMY FORCES,
EUROPE, IN CY 72-73. IT FURTHER STATES THE BCT WILL BE
EARMARKED FOR THE ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE (ACE) MOBILE
FORCE, LAND (AMF- L) AND IS PART OF THE PROGRAM OF MAIN-
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TENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF NATO FORCES. THE FORMATION OF THE BCT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY PROJECT FENDER AND DOES NOT REPRESENT A SHIFTING OF FORCES TO THE FLANKS.

2. MORE BROADLY, GIVEN LIKELY DURATION OF MBFR TALKS, NOT ONLY MULTILATERAL INITIAL TALKS BUT LATER NEGOTIATING PHASES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE OR OUR ALLIES SHOULD CONDITION ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHANGES IN FORCE DISPOSITIONS ENTIRELY ON DEVELOPMENTS IN MBFR CONTEXT, THOUGH THESE OF COURSE

SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT TACTICALLY DEPENDING UPON CIRCUMSTANCES. IN THIS INSTANCE, OUR NET JUDGMENT IS THAT WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON LOW KEY BASIS ENVISAGED, ANTICIPATING NO ACTUAL MOVEMENT OF FORCES UNTIL LATER THIS YEAR.

3. WE CONCUR WITH APPROACH PROPOSED IN REF (B), AND FURTHER DESCRIBED IN USNMR SHAPE ALO 022. ROGERS UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: P/ M
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE045506
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/ ISO: DDONCHI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730329/aaaahudi.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971203
Subject: PROJECT FENDER
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
To: CINCEUR FOR POLAD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005